

### III. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

#### *Listing of Claims with Status Identified*

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A splint apparatus for use with intravenous therapy, said splint apparatus comprising:

an upper portion adapted to be positioned above a patient's limb joint, said upper portion unsecured to the patient's limb to permit flexion of the patient's limb joint; and

a lower portion connected to said upper portion at an angle from 0 to 90 degrees, said lower portion including a pair of sides and a central aperture for passage of an intravenous catheter, said lower portion adapted to be positioned and secured below a patient's limb joint, wherein ~~when said lower portion is secured below a patient's limb joint~~, said upper portion permits flexion of the patient's limb joint for increased patient comfort, but prevents flexion of the patient's limb joint beyond said angle to prevent interference with the intravenous catheter and disruption of catheter flow.

2. (Original) The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein said angle is between 30 and 60 degrees.

3. (Original) The splint apparatus of claim 1 for use in veterinary medicine, and wherein said angle is approximately 47 degrees.

4. (Original) The splint apparatus of claim 1 for use in human medicine, and wherein said angle is approximately 53 degrees.

5. (Original) The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein said lower portion includes incremental measurement marks to properly size the apparatus to the patient.

6. (Original) The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein said lower portion includes raised ridges to limit access to said aperture.

7. (Original) The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one side of said lower portion includes guides for capture of intravenous tubing.